

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04403 211505Z

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TAGS:SWZC, YO

SUBJECT: 1976 PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL  
COMMISSION

REF: STATE 188390

1. US SIDE PRESENTED BILLINGTON'S COMMENTS ON DEFICIENCIES  
OF 1976/77 PROGRAM PROPOSAL TO YUGOSLAV SIDE DURING COMMISSION  
BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 18. POINTED OUT THAT PANEL OF GRANTEES  
DRAWN UP BY AD HOC COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITIES GIVES EVEN GREATER  
PRIORITY TO SCIENCE THAN PROGRAM PROPOSAL AND THAT THEREFORE  
MIGHT ENCOUNTER STRONG OPPOSITION FROM BFS WHEN PRESENTED.  
ATTENTION OF YUGOSLAV MEMBERS DRAWN TO FACT THAT ROUGHLY 70 PERCENT  
OF YUGOSLAV GRANTEES IN PAST TWO PROGRAM YEARS HAVE BEEN IN  
SCIENCES, A DEVELOPMENT US SIDE VIEWS VERY SERIOUSLY. THEREFORE  
REQUESTED YUGOSLAV SIDE CONSIDER CHANGING COMPOSITION OF PANEL  
TO RECTIFY THIS IMBALANCE.

2. YUGOSLAV SIDE AGREED THAT IMBALANCE MATTER FOR CONCERN  
FOR THEM AS WELL, BUT POINTED OUT THAT TOO LATE TO CHANGE COMPOSITION  
OF PANEL. COMPOSITION HAD BEEN ARRIVED AT ONLY AFTER CONSIDERABLE  
BARGAINING BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND REPRESENTS DELICATE BALANCING  
OF QUOTAS FOR REPUBLICS AND IN SOME CASES MINORITIES WITHIN  
REPUBLICS. THUS ANY CHANGE IN LIST OF NOMINEES WOULD REQUIRE  
BEGINNING THIS BARGAINING ALL OVER AGAIN, AND WHILE MIGHT RESULT  
IN MORE GRANTS FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS, WOULD BE PYRRHIC VICTORY  
IN THAT WOULD PROBABLY ALIENATE UNIVERSITIES AND MAKE FUTURE  
COOPERATION WITH THEM MORE DIFFICULT.

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PAGE 02 BELGRA 04403 211505Z

3. YUGOSLAV SIDE THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT PANEL REMAIN AS IS,

BUT THAT AYESC SEND LETTER TO UNIVERSITIES AND REPUBLICAN BODIES PARTICIPATING IN SELECTION PROCESS INFORMING THEM OF DISSATISFACTION OF AYESC WITH COMPOSITION OF THIS YEAR'S PANEL AND INFORMING THEM THAT WHEN THE 157/78 LVOGRAM PROPOERL DRAWN UP THEY WILL BE TOLD T

NUMBER OF OPENINGS AVAILABLE IN EACH CATEGORY AND ASKED TO ABIDE BY THESE QU

ZAS. FURTHERMORE, UNIVERSITIES WILL BE INFORMED

WHEN AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETS NEXT YEAR TO DRAW UP LIST, DRAFT WILL BE REVIEWED DURING MEETING BY AYESC SUB-COMMITTEE AND IF NOT SATISFACTORY WILL BE SENT BACK FOR REVISION.

4. US SIDE RESPONDED THAT COULD NOT GIVE POSITIVE APPROVAL TO PANEL AS IT NOW STANDS BUT IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN CHANGING IT, WOULD PERMIT TO BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON FOR ACTION BY BFS, WHINU ACTION MIGHT INCLUDE REJECTION.

5. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO DRAW ON ABOVE AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN REDIRECTING EMPHASIS OF PROGRAM WHEN IT REPLIES TO BILLINGTON'S COMMENTS RE PROGRAM PROPOSAL. YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES MAINLY INTERESTED IN IMPLDPPNG SCI/TECH FACULTIES AND IN PAST THEIR WISHES HAVE PREVAILED IN AYESC. WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE NEGOTIATING TO CHANGE THIS PATTERN. THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT US SIDE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS FIRST ON OBTAINING MORE GRANTS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEN TUC TO QUESTION OF HUMANITIES. DEPARTMENT COULD ALSO POINT OUT TO BILLINGTON THAT USUALLY ONE QUARTER TO ONE THIRD OF AMERICAN GRANTEES IN ANY ONE YEAR ARE IN HUMANITIES BECAUSE OF STRONG INTEREST OF YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES IN ENGLISH TEACHING AND AMERICAN LITERATURE.  
SILBERMAN

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